



Office of the Mayor

April 24, 2019

Via Email

Mr. Michael Morris
Director of Transportation
North Central Texas Council of Governments
616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

Dear Mr. Morris:

Thank you for taking the time to discuss with me the City of McKinney's position with respect to TxDOT's preferred alignment for expansion of U.S. Highway 380. As you know, this east-west capacity improvement is of critical importance for the continued growth and sustainability of the McKinney community and the larger Collin County region. As we discussed, McKinney has serious concerns with TxDOT's two primary alignments, Red 'A' alignment and the Green alignment (widening in place).

TxDOT staff and their project team have internally and publicly stated numerous times that the foundation of the U.S. 380 Feasibility Study is to identify a regional solution to improve east-west mobility for Collin County and beyond. McKinney is committed to this effort and we welcome the regional partnerships and collaboration afforded as part of this Study. However, as the municipality that stands to be impacted the most by TxDOT's decision, McKinney feels it is critically important to relay to you our concerns about the potential solutions being considered by TxDOT. On behalf of the entire City Council, I would like to outline the specifics of these concerns below.

The Green alignment (widening in place) promises to be terribly disruptive to the existing commercial businesses and residences along existing U.S. 380. The heaviest burden of any capacity improvements is shouldered by McKinney, but the Green alignment is overwhelmingly negative from a reduced property tax and sales tax standpoint. Additionally, we have been notified by Raytheon, our largest employer, that any proposed widening in place will cause irreparable harm to both current operations and future expansion plans; thus, compromising its tenure in McKinney. Without an explicit agreement from Raytheon that all concerns have been mitigated, the McKinney City Council cannot consider support the Green alignment.

With respect to a bypass, we believe the proposed Red 'A' alignment is an inefficient effort to create a regional solution to east-west mobility. It would result in a bypass facility that, in fact, only bypasses a small portion of existing U.S. 380. Furthermore, we have also consistently stated that any western connection point should occur farther west than the NRCS lake near future Stonebridge Drive. For these

reasons, the McKinney City Council unanimously opposes the Red 'A' alignment. Based on a recent meeting with TxDOT, our staff has, once again, requested that TxDOT explore other options which would more effectively accomplish the goal of regional mobility and address McKinney's concerns over the proposed Red 'A' alignment and its connection point with existing U.S. 380.

During the original outreach activities in Spring 2018, TxDOT presented a Yellow alignment option that proposed a bypass through McKinney that continued north of both the Town of New Hope and the City of Princeton, with connections back to existing U.S. 380 at a point east of Princeton. Our understanding is that this option was eliminated due to TxDOT's preliminary travel demand modeling and concerns over impacts to a large property owner north of the Town of New Hope. McKinney strongly feels this option needs to be revisited as the best regional transportation solution for east-west capacity improvements. In fact, the McKinney City Council is very supportive of this alignment, as it presents the best possible combination of long-term regional mobility and mitigation of impacts to existing residences and businesses. We request your support in advancing this alignment.

Based on my comments above and due to TxDOT's inexplicable insistence to drop its consideration of the Red 'B' and Red 'E' alignments, McKinney city staff has developed an alternative alignment that we feel best addresses the regional east-west mobility goals for U.S. 380 as well as some of our deepest concerns regarding impacts on McKinney businesses and residents. We have McKinney City Council consensus in proposing this alternative alignment for your consideration in full support of regional mobility. I have attached a copy of this alignment for your reference (noted as the Teal line).

As always, I appreciate your time and investment in the U.S. 380 Feasibility Study and welcome your partnership as a regional leader in mobility.

Respectfully,



George C. Fuller

Mayor

C: McKinney City Council

McKinney City Manager

Collin County Commissioners Court